

KINDERGARTEN

Living and Learning Together

In Kindergarten, students learn about their families, classmates and neighbors. They begin to distinguish people and events of the past from the present and begin the development of citizenship, thinking skills and participation skills.

The Indiana's K – 8 academic standards for social studies are organized around four content areas. The content area standards and the types of learning experiences they provide to students in Kindergarten are described below. On the pages that follow, age-appropriate concepts are listed for each standard. Skills for thinking, inquiry and participation in a democratic society, including the examination of Individuals, Society and Culture, are integrated throughout. Specific terms are defined and examples are provided when necessary.

Standard 1 — History

Students examine the connections of their own environment with the past, begin to distinguish between events and people of the past and the present, and use a sense of time in classroom planning and participation.

Standard 2 — Civics and Government

Students learn that they are citizens of their school, community and the United States; identify symbols of the nation; and understand the importance of being a responsible citizen who knows why rules are needed and follows them.

Standard 3 — Geography

Students learn that maps and globes are different representations of the Earth's surface and begin to explore the physical and human geographic characteristics of their school, neighborhood and community.

Standard 4 — Economics

Students explain that people do different jobs and work to meet basic economic wants.

Standard 1

History

Students examine the connections of their own environment with the past. They begin to distinguish between events and people of the past and the present, and use a sense of time in classroom planning and participation.

Historical Knowledge

K.1.1 Compare children and families of today with those in the past. (Individuals, Society and Culture)

Example: Compare clothing, houses and objects of the past with the present.

K.1.2 Identify celebrations and holidays as a way of remembering and honoring people, events and America's ethnic heritage.

Example: Identify Thanksgiving, Columbus Day, Grandparent's Day, and birthdays.

K.1.3 Listen to and retell stories about people in the past who showed honesty, courage, and responsibility.

Example: George Washington; Chief Little Turtle; Abraham Lincoln, Harriet Tubman; and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Chronological Thinking

K.1.4 Identify and order events that take place in a sequence.

Example: Identify events in the school day as first, next, last, yesterday, today and tomorrow; place school events in order.

K.1.5 Explain that calendars are used to represent days of the week and months of the year.

Example: Use a calendar to identify days of the week and school activities and birthdays.

Standard 2

Civics and Government

Students learn that they are citizens of their school, community and the United States; identify symbols of the nation; and understand the importance of being a responsible citizen who knows why rules are needed and follows them.

Foundations of Government

K.2.1 Give examples of people who are community helpers and leaders and describe how they help us. (Individuals, Society and Culture)

Example: Parents, teachers, school principal, bus drivers and policemen

K.2.2 Identify and explain that the President of the United States is the leader of our country and that the American flag is a symbol of the United States.

Functions of Government

K.2.3 Give examples of classroom and school rules and explain how each helps us.

Roles of Citizens

- K.2.4 Give examples of how to be a responsible family member and member of a group. (Individuals, Society and Culture)

Example: Respecting the property and rights of others, being honest and truthful, and respecting authority*

- K.2.5 Identify the role of students in the classroom and the importance of following school rules to ensure order and safety.

* authority: power that people have the right to use because of custom or law

Standard 3 Geography

Students learn that maps and globes are different representations of the Earth's surface and begin to explore the physical and human geographic characteristics of their school, neighborhood and community.

The World in Spatial Terms

- K.3.1 Use words related to location, direction and distance, including *here/there, over/under, left/right, above/below, forward/backward* and *between*.

Example: Give and follow simple navigational directions such as walk forward ten steps, turn right and walk between the desks.

- K.3.2 Identify maps* and globes* as ways of representing Earth and understand the basic difference between a map and globe.

* map: a map is flat and can represent only a part of Earth's surface

* globe: a globe is round and can show the entire Earth

Places and Regions

- K.3.3 Locate and describe places in the school and community.

Example: Cafeteria, library, office, restrooms, gym and the fire station

- K.3.4 Identify and describe the address and location of home and school.

Physical Systems

- K.3.5 Describe and give examples of seasonal weather changes and illustrate how weather affects people and the environment.

Example: In different seasons, people wear different kinds of clothing.

Human Systems

- K.3.6 Identify and compare similarities and differences in families, classmates, neighbors and neighborhoods, and ethnic and cultural groups. (Individuals, Society and Culture)

Example: Use newspapers, yearbooks, local Web sites and photographs to show the similarities and differences in family customs and celebrations, clothing, houses, work, and cultural and ethnic heritage.

Environment and Society

- K.3.7 Recommend ways that people can improve their environment at home, in school and in the neighborhood.

Standard 4 Economics

Students explain that people do different jobs and work to meet basic economic wants.

- K.4.1 Explain that people work to earn money to buy the things they want.
- K.4.2 Identify and describe different kinds of jobs that people do and the tools or equipment used in these jobs.

Example: Use picture books, stories and software programs to illustrate and identify different types of jobs, as well as tools and materials used in different jobs.

- K.4.3 Explain why people in a community choose different jobs.

Example: People may have different types of jobs because they like doing different things or because they are better at doing one particular type of job.

- K.4.4 Give examples of work activities that people do at home.